

VZCZCXYZ0019
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHFR #1863 2821624
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 081624Z OCT 08
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4461
INFO RUEHXP/ALL NATO POST COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1618
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

UNCLAS PARIS 001863

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: NATO PREL MOPS MARR AF FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH SUPPORT STREAMLINING U.S. COMMAND AND
CONTROL IN AFGHANISTAN

REF: A. STATE 106861
 B. PARIS 1750
 C. PARIS 1853

11. (U) Sensitive but Unclassified - Not for Internet
Distribution.

12. (SBU) During the recent visits to Paris of USDP Eric Edelman (ref B) and General David Petraeus (ref C), both men raised with their French interlocutors the recent designation of General McKiernan as ISAF as well as OEF commander in Afghanistan. French officials from the Elysee, MFA and MOD all agreed with the reasoning behind the decision to streamline internal U.S. command and control arrangements in Afghanistan by dual-hatting General McKiernan and they expressed support for the USG decision. (Embassy comment: The U.S. command and control structure modifications were viewed as a purely practical decision by the GOF and the announcement did not raise any concerns among French decision-makers).

STAPLETON